

Please cancel claims 24 and 27 without prejudice to filing a continuation application containing the same.

Please amend claims 1-9, 17-23, 25-26, 28 and 31 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A method of making a colored contact lens, the method comprising the steps of: transporting a contact lens into an ink jet printer having a plurality of nozzels, wherein each nozzle is sized to form drops having a volume of less than 100 picoliters of colorant, and wherein the ink jet printer is capable of printing, on the surface of the contact lens, pixels which are less than 150 microns in diameter, and printing a first pattern on a surface of the contact lens by, under control of a computer, dispensing droplets of a first colorant from one or more nozzles, onto the surface of the contact lens.
2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the nozzles face perpendicular to the surface of the contact lens to be printed and form a hemisphere around the contact lens.
3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the printing step is performed, under control of the computer, by dispensing droplets of the first colorant from one or more nozzles, onto the surface of the contact lens while rotating the contact lens.
4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first colorant is an ink comprising at least one pigment, and wherein the ink is characterized by being capable of drying in less than 5 second, by having a viscosity of from about 1 to about 50 centipoise, and by being capable of adhering to the contact lens and retaining the shape of the contact lens after being treated in an autoclave.
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising printing a second pattern by, under control of the computer, dispensing droplets of a second colorant from one or more nozzles, onto the surface of the contact lens.
6. (Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the first and second colorants independent of each other are inks comprising at least one pigment, and wherein the ink is characterized by being capable of drying in less than 5 second, by having a viscosity of from about 1 to about 50 centipoise, and by being capable of adhering to the contact lens and retaining the shape of the contact lens after being treated in an autoclave.

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7. (Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the nozzles face perpendicular to the surface of the contact lens to be printed and form a hemisphere around the contact lens.
8. (Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the printing step is performed, under control of the computer, dispensing droplets of the first or second colorant from one or more nozzles, onto the surface of the contact lens while rotating the contact lens.
9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising coating the lens with a binding solution.
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17. (Amended) A method of making a colored contact lens, the method comprising printing at least one layer of a colorant in a pattern onto a contact lens using a printing process selected from the group consisting of electrophotographic printing, thermal transfer printing process, and photographic development printing.
18. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the printing process comprises electrophotographic printing using a photosensitive sphere or hemisphere to print the colorant in the form of toner directly onto the contact lens.
19. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the sphere or hemisphere contacts a surface of the contact lens to transfer toner to the lens to the surface of the contact lens.
20. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the contact lens is placed on the sphere or hemisphere and toner is transferred to the contact lens using a toner transfer mechanism.
21. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the toner transfer mechanism is selected from the group consisting of a roller, a mold, and a ball.
22. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the printing step comprises printing onto a film on a mold for making the contact lens, and wherein the film becomes integral with the contact lens when the contact lens is formed in the mold.
23. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the printing step comprises printing onto a pad and using the pad with the printing to print directly on the contact lens.
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25. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the toner transfer mechanism comprises a ball.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the printing process comprises thermal transfer printing using a multiple-color complement system.

28. (Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein each component color of the multiple-color complement system is associated with a ribbon for transferring the component color to the contact lens or to a film on a mold for the contact lens.

31. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the printing process comprises photographic development printing.

Please add claims 50-58 as follows:

50. The method of claim 5, wherein the second pattern overlaps the first pattern, at least in part.
51. The method of claim 50, wherein the second pattern overlaps the first pattern such that at least 50% of the first pattern is covered.
52. The colored contact lens of claim 16, comprising an image thereon, wherein the image is selected from the group consisting of a cosmetic pattern, an inversion mark, a SKU code, an identity code, and combinations thereof.
53. The colored contact lens of claim 52, wherein the image is a cosmetic pattern.
54. The colored contact lens of claim 52, wherein said cosmetic pattern is an iris pattern.
55. The colored contact lens of claim 52, wherein the image is an inversion mark.
56. The colored contact lens of claim 52, wherein the image is an SKU code.
57. The colored contact lens of claim 56, wherein the contact lens further comprises an iris pattern and wherein the SKU code is blended with the iris pattern.
58. The colored contact lens of claim 52, wherein the image is an identity code.